MEET THESE BOYS AT THE **Pleasanton Public Library**

Compiled by the Pleasanton Library Children's Staff



Books are shelved in Children's Fiction by author's last name and/or Children's Paperbacks by first letter of author's last name (unless otherwise noted).

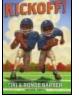
Please ask at the Children's Desk if you need help.

Realistic and Historical Fiction

Kickoff! by Tiki & Ronde Barber

Grades 4-6 (156 p)

Tiki and Ronde Barber work hard and try out for the junior high football team with the hopes of playing and not just sitting on the bench.



The Shakespeare Stealer by Gary Blackwood

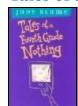


Grades 5-8 (216 p) Audiobook available

The Shakespeare Stealer trilogy

A young orphan boy is ordered by his master to infiltrate Shakespeare's acting troupe in order to steal the script of "Hamlet," but he discovers instead the meaning of friendship and loyalty.

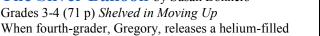
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing



by Judy Blume Grades 3-5 (120 p) Fudge series

Two is a crowd when Peter and his brother, Fudge, are in the same room. Grown-ups think Fudge is absolutely adorable, but Peter and his pet turtle, Dribble, know the truth. Fudge is actually a tiny terror in disguise, causing mischief everywhere he goes.

The Silver Balloon by Susan Bonners



balloon into the sky with his name and address attached, it leads to an unusual friendship and an exchange of mystery gifts.



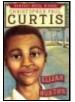


When his family runs low on funds while on a trip to Toronto, nine-year-old Sam allows himself to be "borrowed" and entered in a contest to find the Perfecto Kiddo, hoping to win \$10,000.

Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis

Grades 5-8 Audiobook available— Book also available in Spanish Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father—the renowned bandleader, H. E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.

Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis



Grades 5-8 (341 p) Audiobook available

In 1859, eleven-year-old Elijah Freeman, the first free-born child in Buxton, Canada, which is a haven for slaves fleeing the American south, uses his wits and skills to try to bring to justice the lying preacher who has stolen money that was to be used to buy a family's freedom.

Phineas L. MacGuire Erupts!: The First

Experiment by Frances O'Roark Dowell

Grades 3-5 (167 p) From the Highly Scientific Notebooks of Phineas L. MacGuire series

Fourth-grade science whiz, Phineas MacGuire, is forced to team up with the new boy in class on a science fair project, but the boy's quirky personality causes Phineas to wonder if they have any chance of winning.



Scat by Carl Hiaasen

Grades 5-8 (371 p) Audiobook available Nick and his friend Marta decide to investigate when a mysterious fire starts near a Florida wildlife preserve

and an unpopular teacher goes missing.

Into the Firestorm: A Novel of San Francisco,



1906 by Deborah Hopkinson

Grades 5-8 (200 p)

Days after arriving in San Francisco from Texas, eleven -year-old orphan Nicholas Dray tries to help his new neighbors survive the 1906 San Francisco earthquake and the subsequent fires.

Stormbreaker by Anthony Horowitz

Grades 6-9 (192 p) Audiobook available Alex Rider Adventure series

After the death of the uncle who had been his guardian, fourteen-year-old Alex Rider is coerced into continuing his uncle's dangerous work for Britain's intelligence agency, MI6.



Andy Shane and the Very Bossy Dolores



Starbuckle by Jennifer Jacobson Grades 2-3 (56 p) Shelved in Moving Up Andy Shane series

Andy Shane hates school, mainly because of a tattletale know-it-all named Dolores Starbuckle, but Granny Webb, who has taken care of him all his life, joins him in class one day and helps him solve the problem.

Schooled by Gordon Korman

Grades 5-8 (208 p) Audiobook available Cap Anderson lives on a farm commune, but after his grandmother's accident he is sent to a local middle school where his weirdness makes him a target for the school bully.



Dave at Night by Gail Carson Levine



Grades 5-7 (281 p) *Audiobook available* When orphaned Dave is sent to the Hebrew Home for Boys where he is treated cruelly, he sneaks out at night and is welcomed into the music-and-culture-filled world of the Harlem Renaissance.

Black Duck by Janet Taylor Lisle

Grades 6-9 (252 p) Audiobook available

Years afterwards, Ruben Hart tells the story of how, in 1929 Newport, Rhode Island, his family and his best friend's family were caught up in the violent competition among groups trying to control the local rum smuggling trade.

Alvin Ho Allergic to Girls, School, and Other Scary Things by Lenore Look

Grades 3-4 (172 p) *Alvin Ho series*

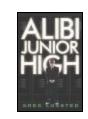
A young boy in Concord, Massachusetts, who loves superheroes and comics and comes from a long line of brave Chinese farmer-warriors, wants to make friends, but first he must overcome his fears.



Alibi Junior High by Greg Logsted

Grades 6-8 (244 p)

After thirteen-year-old Cody and his father, an undercover agent, are nearly killed, Cody moves in with his aunt in Connecticut, where he is helped with his adjustment to the trials of attending public school for the first time and investigating a threat in nearby woods by a wounded Iraq War vet.



Dog Days by David Lubar

Grades 4-6 (78 p)

Long, lazy days of summer, dog days, have come at last. Larry looks forward to the two things he loves most, playing baseball and taking care of his three dogs. Then his little brother, Paul, interrupts the fun by dragging Larry to the scene of a mystery.



Popular Boy Series

Most are shelved in J Paperbacks by first letter of series title (may also be shelved in J Fiction by author's last name)

Baseball Card Adventure series by Dan Gutman Grades 4-6 (shelved in J Paperbacks under "G")

Dragonback series by Timothy Zahn - *Grades 6-8* (shelved in J Fiction)

Hank Zipzer by Henry Winkler and Lin Oliver (shelved in J Paperbacks under "W") - Grades 4-6

Hardy Boys by Franklin Dixon - Grades 4-6

Keys to the Kingdom by Garth Nix - *Grades 5-8* (shelved in J Fiction)

Martin Bridge by Jessica Scott Kerrin - Grades 2-3 (shelved in Moving Up)

Marvin Redpost by Louis Sachar - Grades 3-4

Ready Freddy by Abby Klein - Grades 2-3

Shredderman by Wendelin Van Draanen - *Grades 3-5* (shelved in J Paperbacks under "V")

Stink by Megan McDonald - Grades 2-4 (shelved in J Paperbacks under "M")

Three Investigators by Robert Arthur - *Grades 4-5*

The Time Warp Trio by Jon Scieszka - Grades 3-4

Pleasanton Public Library Children's Services 400 Old Bernal Ave. Pleasanton, California 94566

(925) 931-3400

Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m.- 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday: 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Sunday: 1 p.m.- 5 p.m.

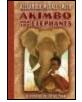


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Akimbo and the Elephants by Alexander McCall Smith

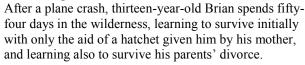
Grades 3-5 (68 p) Audiobook available Akimbo series

On the African game preserve where his father works, Akimbo devises a dangerous plan to capture a ring of elephant poachers.



Hatchet by Gary Paulson

Grades 6-9 (142 p) Audiobook available Brian's Saga series



Eye of the Crow by Shane Peacock

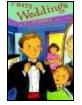


Grades 6-9 (251 p) *Boy Sherlock Holmes series* In 1867, Sherlock Holmes, an impoverished young outcast with a Jewish father and a highborn mother, visits the scene of a woman's brutal murder, where he meets a wrongly accused young Arab and becomes a suspect himself.

I Hate Weddings by P. J. Petersen

Grades 3-5 (104 p)

When Dan has to meet his new stepfamily and take part in his father's wedding, he finds that all sorts of horrible and embarrassing things happen to him.



Gone from these Woods



by Donny Bailey Seagraves Grades 5-8 (179 p)

Feeling like a monstrous villain in one of his comic books, eleven-year-old Daniel tries to cope with the guilt after accidentally killing his beloved uncle while hunting in the woods of North Georgia.

The Invention of Hugo Cabret: by Brian Selznick



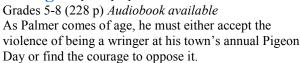
Grades 4-8 (533 p) *Audiobook available*When twelve-year-old Hugo, an orphan living and repairing clocks within the walls of a Paris train station in 1931, meets a mysterious toy seller and his goddaughter, his undercover life and his biggest secret are jeopardized.

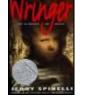
Peak by Roland Smith

Grades 7-9 (246 p) Audiobook available

A fourteen-year-old boy attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.

Wringer by Jerry Spinelli





The Adventures of Tom Sawyer

by Mark Twain

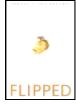
Grades 5-8 (284 p) Audiobook available

The adventures of a mischievous young boy and his friends growing up in a Mississippi River town in the early nineteenth century.

Flipped by Wendelin Van Draanen

have changed over the years.

Grades 5-8 (212 p) *Audiobook available*In alternating chapters, two teenagers describe how their feelings about themselves, each other, and their families



Oggie Cooder by Sarah Weeks

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Grades 3-5 (172 p) Audiobook available

Oggie Cooder series

Quirky fourth -grader, Oggie Cooder, goes from being shunned to everyone's best friend when his uncanny ability to chew slices of cheese into shapes of states wins him a slot on a popular television talent show, but he soon learns the perils of being a celebrity and having

a neighbor girl as his manager.

Leepike Ridge by Nathan D. Wilson

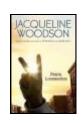


poetic voice at school.

Grades 5-8 (224 p)

While his widowed mother continues to search for him, eleven-year-old Tom, presumed dead after drifting away down a river, finds himself trapped in a series of underground caves with another survivor and a dog, and pursued by murderous treasurer hunters.

Peace, Locomotion by Jacqueline Woodson Grades 4-8 (100 p) *Companion book: Locomotion* In a series of poems, eleven-year-old Lonnie writes about his life, after the death of his parents, separated from his younger sister, living in a foster home, and finding his



Science Fiction and Fantasy

Peter and the Starcatchers by Dave Barry



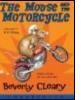
Grades 5-8 (451 p) *Audiobook available Peter and the Starchatchers series*Soon after Peter, an orphan, sets sail from England on the ship, Never Land, he befriends and assists Molly, a young Starcatcher, whose mission is to guard a trunk of magical stardust from a greedy pirate and the native inhabitants of a remote island.

Nick of Time by Ted Bell

Grades 6-9 (437 p) *Audiobook available Nick McIver Time Adventure series*In England, just before the beginning of WWII, Nick
McIver has an opportunity to travel back to Lord
Nelson's time, fight Nazis, and support the Royal Navy.



The Mouse and the Motorcycle



by Beverly Cleary Grades 3-5 (158 p) *Audiobook available* Ralph S. Mouse series

A reckless young mouse named Ralph makes friends with a boy in room 215 of the Mountain View Inn and discovers the joys of motorcycling.

Airman by Eoin Colfer

Grades 7-9 (412 p) Audiobook available

In the late nineteenth century, when Conor Broekhart discovers a conspiracy to overthrow the king, he is branded a traitor, imprisoned, and forced to mine for diamonds under brutal conditions while he plans a daring escape from Little Saltee prison by way of a flying

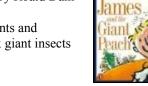
machine that he must design, build, and, hardest of all, trust to carry him to safety.

Gregor the Overlander by Suzanne Collins

Grades 5-8 (311 p) *Audiobook available—Underland Chronicles* When eleven-year-old Gregor and his two-year-old sister are pulled into a strange underground world, they trigger an epic battle involving men, bats, rats, cockroaches, and spiders while on a quest foretold by an ancient prophecy.

James and the Giant Peach by Roald Dahl Grades 3-5 (146 p)

A young boy escapes from two wicked aunts and embarks on a series of adventures with six giant insects he meets inside a giant peach.



Revenge of the Witch by Joseph Delaney

Grades 7-9 (344 p) *Audiobook available—Last Apprentice series* Young Tom, the seventh son of a seventh son, starts work as an apprentice for the village spook, whose job is to protect ordinary folks from "ghouls, boggarts, and all manner of wicked beasties."

The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer

Grades 7-9 (390 p) *Audiobook available*In a future where humans despise clones, Matt enjoys special status as the young clone of El Patron, the 142-year-old leader of a corrupt drug empire nestled between Mexico and the United States.



The Ruins of Gorlan by John Flanagan



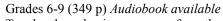
Grades 6-9 (249 p) *Audiobook available Ranger's Apprentice series*When fifteen-year-old Will is rejected by battle school, he becomes the reluctant apprentice to the mysterious Ranger Halt, and winds up protecting the kingdom from

The 13th Floor: A Ghost Story by Sid Fleischman

Grades 4-6

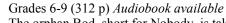
When his older sister disappears, twelve-year-old Buddy Stebbins follows her back in time and finds himself aboard a seventeenth-century pirate ship captained by a distant relative.

The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke



Two brothers, having run away from the aunt who plans to adopt the younger one, are sought by a detective hired by their aunt, but they have found shelter with, and protection from, Venice's "Thief Lord."

The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman



The orphan Bod, short for Nobody, is taken in by the inhabitants of a graveyard as a child of eighteen months and raised lovingly and carefully to the age of eighteen years by the community of ghosts and otherwordly creatures.



Tunnels by Roderick Gordon

Grades 6-9 (472 p) *Audiobook available - Tunnels series*When Will Burrows and his friend Chester embark on a quest to find Will's archaeologist father, who has inexplicably disappeared, they are

led to a labyrinthine world underneath London, with sinister inhabitants and evil intentions toward "Topsoilers" like Will and his father.

Among the Hidden by Margaret Peterson Haddix



Grades 5-8 (153 p) *Shadow Children series*In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.

My Rotten Life by David Lubar

Grades 4-6 (160 p)

Nathan Abercrombie, Accidental Zombie series
Tired of continually having his feelings hurt by popular
students and bullies, fifth-grader Nathan agrees to try
an experimental formula, Hurt-Be-Gone, and becomes
a half-dead zombie, a condition which, he soon
discovers, has some real advantages.



The Merchant of Death by D. J. MacHale



Grades 6-9 (375 p) *Pendragon series*Fourteen-year-old Bobby Pendragon, having learned he is a Traveler—someone who can ride "flumes" through time and space, is soon off to the alternative dimension of Denduron where he teams up with Loor, a girl his age from the warrior-territory of Zadaa, in an attempt to save the gentle Milago people from slavery.

Airborn by Kenneth Oppel

Grades 6-9 (375 p) Audiobook available

Matt, a young cabin boy aboard an airship, and Kate, a wealthy young girl traveling with her chaperone, team up to search for the existence of mysterious winged creature s reportedly living hundreds of feet above the Earth's surface.



The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan

Grades 6-8 (377 p) Audiobook available Percy Jackson & the Olympians series

After learning that he is the son of a mortal woman and Poseidon, god of the sea, twelve-year-old Percy is sent to a summer camp for demigods like himself, and joins his new friends on a quest to prevent a war between the gods.

Simon Bloom, The Gravity Keeper



by Michael Reisman Grades 5-8 (312 p) *Audiobook available Simon Bloom series*

Nerdy sixth-grader Simon Bloom finds a book that enables him to control the laws of physics, but when two thugs come after him, he needs the formulas in the book to save himself.

Heroes of the Valley by Jonathan Stroud

Grades 6-9 (483 p) *Audiobook available*When young Halli Sveinsson plays a trick on
Ragnor of the House of Hakonsson, he sets in
motion a chain of events that will forever alter his
destines, forcing him to leave home and go on a
hero's quest where he encounters highway robbers,
terrifying monsters, and a girl who may finally be
his match.

